

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 25-36 are pending in this application. Claims 25-26, 29, and 33 are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification, specifically at page 17.

No new matter has been introduced. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. and §103(a)

Claims 25-27, 29-31, and 33-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,349,381 to Murayama et al. (hereinafter, merely “Murayama”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,473,372 to Nobuoka et al. (hereinafter, merely “Nobuoka”).

Claims 28, 32, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Murayama in view of Nobuoka and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,546,135 to Okamoto et al. (hereinafter, merely "Okamoto").

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 25 recites, *inter alia*:

"wherein the filtered digital video signal that has a frequency higher than a predetermined frequency is attenuated in the low pass filter means to have an amplitude smaller than a deviation between two successive sampling points on the non-linear curve." (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Murayama relates to a video camera having three image pickup devices in which a pixel of one channel of channels forming three primary colors is spatially displaced from other pixels of two channels by 0.5 pixel. When three primary color signals output from the three image pickup devices are converted into digital three primary color signals, an aperture signal is formed from the digital three primary color signals, the aperture signal output is added to the digital three primary color signals and digital video signal of a predetermined format is formed from the added signal.

As understood by Applicants, Nobuoka relates to a gamma correction circuit for converting N-bit input data into M-bit output data by using a gamma correction curve approximated by a polygonal line having a plurality of straight line sections each having a difference slope, the gamma correction circuit including a calculation circuit for executing conversion calculation for each the straight line section; and a control circuit for controlling the

calculation circuit in accordance with a value of the input data so that the calculation circuit executes the conversion calculation for each the straight line section corresponding to the value.

As understood by Applicants, Okamoto relates to a contour restoration circuit comprising an input terminal, a plurality of delay circuits connected to the input terminal in series, a maximum value detection circuit, a minimum value detection circuit, a mean value calculating the mean value from the maximum and minimum values, a subtractor for subtracting the mean value from the input video signal, a gain controller for the subtracted signal, an adder for adding the gain controlled signal to the input video and an output terminal.

Applicants respectfully submit that Murayama, Nobuoka, and Okamoto, taken either alone or in combination, fail to teach or disclose the above-identified features of claim 25. Specifically, nothing is found that teaches or discloses wherein the filtered digital video signal that has a frequency higher than a predetermined frequency is attenuated in the low pass filter means to have an amplitude smaller than a deviation between two successive sampling points on the non-linear curve, as recited in claim 25 (emphasis added). Indeed, Applicants submit that none of the art used as a basis of rejection is directed to attenuating a frequency with a specific value in the low pass filter. More specifically, the claimed attenuation results in a frequency with an amplitude smaller than a deviation between successive sampling points.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25 is patentable.

Claims 29 and 33 are similar, or somewhat similar, in scope with claim 25 and are therefore patentable for at least similar, or somewhat similar, reasons.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

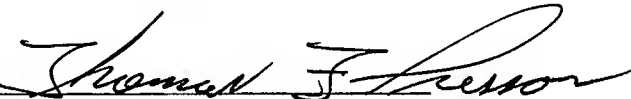
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance and request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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